

Pembroke Rural District Council

Library



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DISTRICT
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

RECEIVED
10-11-64
P.

P E M B R O K E R U R A L D I S T R I C T

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mr.Chairman, Mrs.Wisbey and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report of the health of the district for the year 1964.

Housing

The number of applicants for re-housing in the rural district has never been high, but there will be a greater problem now that there has been an increase in industry in the area. There have been quite a number of sub-standard cottages throughout the district but gradually these are either being improved by means of a grant or demolished.

Infectious Disease

There was no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year but three new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. It is known that brucellosis occurs in the district as a fair amount of raw milk is sold in the area, and it is hoped that the Council will agree to the necessary increase in Public Health staff to do this work in addition to the work resulting from recent additional legislation.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

This Act came into force on the 1st May and this means a good deal of extra work for the Public Health Inspector, but this is all part of the work necessary to see that conditions are suitable for healthy living, which is so vital a part of the work of a Public Health Inspector.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28870189>

the members of the Council and its Officers for their continued courtesy and co-operation, and to include in this my thanks to my clerk for all her help.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Phyllis M. Bowen

PHYLLIS M. BOWEN, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

The Clinic,
Warren Street
Tenby.

Tel: Tenby 2991/2

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate)...1964...
6,180.....

	<u>Pembroke</u> <u>R.D. 1964</u>	<u>Pembroke</u> <u>R.D. 1963</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Live Births	120	119		
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	19.41	19.07	18.41	18.4
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	5.0	.84		
Still Births	2	1		
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	16.39	8.33	15.14	16.3
Total Live and Still Births	122	120		
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	6	1		
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)				
- total	50.0	8.40	22.20	20.0
- legitimate	52.63	8.47		
- illegitimate	nil	nil		
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks)(per 1,000 Live Births)	50.0	nil	19.36	13.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week)(per 1,000 Live Births)	50.0	nil	17.65	
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 1 week and Still Births Combined)(per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	65.57	8.33	32.52	

	<u>Pembroke</u> <u>R.D.1964</u>	<u>Pembroke</u> <u>R.D.1963</u>	<u>County of</u> <u>Pembroke</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Maternal Deaths	nil	nil		
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	nil	nil	1.12	0.25
Deaths	84	69		
Death Rate (per 1,000 pop.)	13.59	11.05	13.30	11.3

Infant Mortality

The Infant Mortality Rate is higher this year as there were six deaths of infants under the age of one year. Five of these were premature births, including two sets of twins, and, as will be seen from the following tabel, all but one of the infants weighed under 3 lbs. 3 ozs. at birth.

<u>Age at Death</u>		<u>Birth Weight</u>	<u>Cause</u>
1. 12 hours	} twins	3 lbs. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.	Prematurity
2. 8 "		2 lbs. 15 ozs.	"
3. 5 days	} twins		Acute meningitis
4. 2 hours		2 lbs. 4 ozs.	Prematurity
5. 2 "		1 lb. 15 ozs.	"
6. 1 "		5 lbs. 4 ozs.	Prematurity and congenital mal- formation

Deaths (General)

There is a slight increase in the death rate this year but it is only slightly higher than the rate for the County. Of the deaths from malignant disease only one was due to cancer of the lung. This occurred in a man aged 60 years who was known to have been a heavy smoker of cigarettes. 38 of the total number of deaths were due to heart disease. Approximately 69% of the total number of deaths occurred in persons aged over 70 years and, of these, approximately 50% occurred in persons aged over 80 years.

<u>Causes of death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
TOTAL (All causes)	42	42
Tuberculosis, respiratory,	-	1
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus,	1	-
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	5
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	7
Coronary disease, angina,	12	5
Other heart disease	8	9
Other circulatory disease	2	2
Pneumonia	-	1
Bronchitis	4	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	4
All other accidents	2	1

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified to us during the year:-

Scarlet Fever	15
Respiratory Tuberculosis	3
Whooping Cough	6
Measles	28
Erysipelas	1

TUBERCULOSIS

One death from respiratory tuberculosis occurred this year in a woman aged 41 years, and three new cases were notified. One of these was a woman aged 37 and the others were school-children aged 12 and 14 years.

PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

B.C.G. Vaccination B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts and school-leavers continues to be carried out in the district. During the year 1964,

102 school-leavers were skin-tested and 82 of these required vaccination. 3 contacts were also skin-tested and 1 vaccinated. Dr. Llewelyn Davies, the Chest Physician, also vaccinates contacts at the Chest Clinic.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service paid 12 visits to the Borough of Pembroke during the year. 573 people took the opportunity to have their chests X-rayed and this figure would include residents in the neighbouring rural areas, although separate figures are not available.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES

Vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are carried out by the local practitioners and at the clinics. The local practitioners are paid by the County Council for records received each quarter by your Medical Officer. During 1964 the following records were received:-

Vaccinations Primary	51	Re-vaccinations	28
Diphtheria Immunisations	99	Re-inforcing injections	63
Whooping Cough Immunisations	96	Tetanus Immunisations	99

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47:- Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary under this section.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1964

WATER SUPPLY

General Report

The newly formed Pembrokeshire Water Board carried out a number of improvements to the mains supplies in various parts of the district as follows.

St. Mary Out Liberty.

As the result of a booster pump being installed, the supply to this parish is now entirely from the trunk main supplying Tenby Borough and as far as is known there were no shortages.

Manorbier

The Park Springs supply was brought into operation and served the south eastern area, and as a result of reducing the demand on the pumps at Stephens Green, the pressure in other parts of the district was increased.

Penally

The Board decided to extend the 6" main from Lydstep to Penally.

Cosheston

A booster pump was installed on this section bringing about a much needed improvement to the supply.

Maidenwells, Hundleton

The capacity of the submersible pump at Stackpole was increased, thereby affording adequate pressures throughout the line to Maidenwells.

Hundleton

The original source of supply from the local springs was abandoned and the village is now supplied entirely from the Wogaston Reservoir.

Greenhill Reservoir

The scheme to supply industrial water to the Regent Refinery at Rhoscrowther was completed, together with the open reservoir at Greenhill, Pwllcrochan.

Samples

Thirty-seven samples of water were taken during the year and of this total thirty-four samples were taken from the public mains water supply and all were satisfactory.

Two samples were taken from a private farm supply which also served a dairy and as a result of the supply being found polluted, the supply was abandoned and mains water brought to the premises.

A sample from a private supply to a pair of cottages was found to be satisfactory.

SEWERAGE

Schemes Completed prior to 1964

Milton/Carew Cheriton
Manorbier
Lydstep

Carew
Penally
Jameston

Schemes in Progress

Angle Village

This scheme was completed during the year and the twelve council houses, public convenience, caravan site and two private properties were connected to the sewerage system. Statutory notices, in respect of all other properties, were served requiring conversion of earth closets to water closets, and connection of existing W.C's to the sewer.

Lamphey Village

At the end of the year the electrical equipment for the pumping plant was installed, and the whole scheme to all intents and purposes was completed.

Rhoscrowther Village

The electricity supply to the pumping station was connected at the end of December, and here again the works were then operational and virtually complete.

Castlemartin Village

Progress on this scheme, which commenced during October, proceeded fairly satisfactorily, though rock excavation had slowed up work to some extent.

St. Florence Village

At the end of the year the sewers had been almost completed together with 80% of the disposal works. In view of new private housing development, the Council also decided, under Section 12 of the Public Health Act, 1961, to extend the original sewer so as to serve these properties.

Schemes under consideration

Cosheston Village

The final plans for this scheme were approved by the Council and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and other interested bodies.

St. Twynells Village

As with Cosheston the final plans were forwarded to the various interested parties during November.

Lawrenny Village

Preparatory investigations were carried out but some delay was encountered due to the failure to agree on apportionment of costs in respect of a contemplated large scale private development at Lawrenny Ferry.

Hundleton Village

During the year investigations and inspections took place to select a suitable site for a disposal works.

St. Mary Out Liberty

Subject to minor amendments the Ministry of Housing and Local Government approved in principle this scheme and asked for the full detailed plans.

Maidenwells, Hundleton

The Council decided to commence joint consultations with the Pembroke Borough Council to sewer some thirty-one properties, twelve of which are situate within the Rural District.

Stackpole Village

Preliminaries began early in the year, and a suitable site was soon found for the treatment works, and final details of the scheme prepared.

Redberth Village

It was decided to reconsider a scheme previously prepared for this locality.

Frankleston Area: Penally
Branders Park Area: Carew

Consideration was given to the provision of public sewerage in respect of these areas, and preliminary investigations were commenced by the Council.

Maintenance of Sewage Disposal Works

During the year provision was made to include for a new cesspool emptier in the estimates for 1965/66, and the regular sampling of effluents from all works, copies of the reports to be automatically forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, South West Wales River Board and Consulting Engineers.

It also became apparent that extra staff would be required as additional sewage disposal works came into operation and this was accepted by the Council.

HOUSING

Council Houses

In accordance with Ministerial advice and after considerable discussion, there was unprecedented progress during the year. A special meeting was held during January to plan the Council's future housing programme, and it was decided to inspect and report on all suitable sites within the district.

In March, this report was presented to the Council and embraced some twelve potential housing sites.

During July a further special meeting prepared a three year Council Housing Programme detailed as follows:

Parish, etc.	Dwellings under construction or in tenders approved or submitted for approval.	Three year programme of dwellings proposed to be erected in addition to the numbers stated in column (b)
(a)	(b)	(c)
Angle	14	20
Carew: Milton: Summers Villas	1	-
Carew Cheriton	-	10
Castlemartin	-	6
Cosheston	10	11
Hundleton: River View	4	-
Guilderoy	-	125
Lamphey: Park View	32	-
Manorbier: Lydstep	-	8
Jameston	6	12
Manorbier	-	8
Ponally: Holloway Court	-	8
Near The Alma	11	-
Rhoscrowther	12	30
St. Florence	-	10
St. Mary Out Liberty, Tenby	-	12
St. Twynells	-	12
Stackpole Elidor	-	6
TOTAL	90	278

Housing for the elderly

After much discussion and following a joint meeting of the various local authorities in Pembrokeshire at Haverfordwest during November 1963, the Council decided not to provide communal facilities for the elderly, and that the minimum accommodation would be a two bedroomed bungalows. The reasons for this decision were as follows:-

1. The comparative costs of providing a one bedroom bungalow and a two bedroom bungalow would be very small having regard to the additional accommodation.
2. Most old folk are reluctant to leave their cottages, and in the absence of a known demand, it was felt that it would be unwise to provide new homes which would be unsuited to young couples recently married.
3. There is an accepted resistance by old people in rural areas to move from their villages to reside in communal homes or special housing projects where warden facilities are to be provided. There is also opposition from old people to move into such accommodation even if provided within their own villages, although an increasing number are showing an interest in Council bungalows and are in fact being allocated a fair share of all new and vacant dwellings. It is anticipated that this trend will continue and an even greater proportion of new housing will in future be allocated to the elderly.

Housing layouts

One of the major disappointments, resulting in a set back, was the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's insistence on certain sites being developed on a segregated layout basis. The Council, being mindful of the problems of straying farm animals on such sites in rural areas, and in fact already manifested at Rhoscrowther, was unable to reach a decision regarding the 9.133 acres at Hundleton which it had hoped to develop primarily for industrial workers.

It was made known that the Highway Authority are not prepared to adopt estate roads provided with cattle grids, and the Council were unfortunately caught between two stools. It is to be hoped therefore that an early solution can be found to this problem which may become more evident as time passes and result in delays to housing projects in the district.

The number of Council Houses completed during the year was twenty-eight, and the total number of Council Houses in the district is 330, of which three have been sold to the Tenants.

Schemes completed from 1963 programme

At the commencement of the year the following schemes were under construction, and all were completed before the end of the year:-

Hundleton	-	4 Bungalows.
Lamphey	-	10 Bungalows.
Cosheston	-	4 Bungalows.

New Schemes commenced or completed during the year

Angle Village

At the end of the year three small sites were being developed and a total of fourteen bungalows were under construction.

Penally Village

Work commenced on the site works towards the end of the year. The scheme incorporated five houses with garages and six flats for the elderly.

Lamphey Village

Four one-bedroomed bungalows were commenced and were near completion at the end of the year.

Cosheston

Four two-bedroomed bungalows were completed on an extension to the existing site at Woodfield Grove, and a further six two-bedroomed bungalows and twelve garages were commenced, thereby completing the development of land already owned by the Council.

Hundleton

Four two-bedroomed bungalows were completed on the River View Estate, completing the development of land already owned by the Council on this site.

Jameston

Six one-bedroomed bungalows were commenced during the year, and were at an advanced stage of construction in December.

Rhoscrowther

Work on twelve three-bedroomed bungalows on this site progressed satisfactorily with three pairs of bungalows completed at the end of the year. These dwellings were provided to accommodate industrial workers at the nearby refinery, and tanker terminals.

Housing Improvement Grants

A total of twelve applications were received for Discretionary Grants and a further three in respect of Standard Grants. Altogether seventeen dwellings were so modernised, eleven with Discretionary Grants and six with Standard Grants.

Unfit Houses

A total of fourteen unfit houses were closed during the year.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	39
Number of dwelling houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations 1925 & 1932 included in previous column.	-
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	14
Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation (exclusive of those in previous column).	8
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.	16

Private Development

As will be seen in the following statistics, private housing continued to rise thereby injecting new life into a number of villages. Favourable progress in modernising existing cottages is also recorded.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Year	Council Houses	Private Houses	Houses modernised with Discretionary Grant	Houses modernised with Standard Grant	Houses modernised without Grant	Houses closed or demolished
1954	19	-	9	-	-	-
1955	10	13	13	-	4	3
1956	9	8	17	-	2	9
1957	16	21	9	-	5	11
1958	-	13	14	-	4	11
1959	-	16	25	2	6	3
1960	-	15	21	6	6	5
1961	15	18	21	5	7	15
1962	22	30	26	10	3	15
1963	5	22	19	8	4	8
1964	28	40	11	3	2	15
TOTAL	124	196	185	34	43	95

HOUSING STATISTICS

Private Dwellings

Year	Number Completed	One Bedroom	Two Bedroom	Three Bedroom	Four or more Bedrooms	Number under construction at end of year
1955	13	-	-	-	-	7
1956	8	-	-	-	-	16
1957	21	-	-	-	-	7
1958	13	-	-	-	-	14
1959	16	-	-	-	-	13
1960	15	-	-	-	-	10
1961	18	-	4	12	2	24
1962	30	-	4	25	1	16
1963	22	-	4	13	5	27
1964	40	-	14	19	6	71

Council Houses/Bungalows

Year	One Bedroom	Two Bedroom	Three Bedroom	Total Number Completed
1954	-	6	13	19
1955	-	-	10	10
1956	-	-	9	9
1957	-	2	14	16
1958	-	-	-	-
1959	-	-	-	-
1960	-	-	-	-
1961	4	11	-	15
1962	-	22	-	22
1963	-	3	2	5
1964	-	22	6	28

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING YEAR

Housing Act, 1936, Sections 9,10 & 16

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	-
--	---

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices (By Owners).	-
---	---

Public Health Acts

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	11
---	----

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	-
---	---

Housing Act, 1936, Sections 11 & 13

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made.	-
--	---

Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders.	-
---	---

Housing Act, 1936, Section 12

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made.	14
---	----

HOUSING ACT, 1936 PART IV - OVERCROWDING

Number of dwelling houses overcrowded at end of year.	Not known
---	-----------

Number of families dwelling therein.	"
--------------------------------------	---

Number of persons dwelling therein.	"
-------------------------------------	---

Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year.	"
---	---

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year.	
---	--

Number of persons concerned in such cases.	
--	--

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

Strict compliance in accordance with the above regulations was effected throughout the year and 100% inspection was made at the private slaughterhouse within the district.

	<u>Cattle excluding Cows</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep & Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Horses</u>
Number killed	94	1	2	438	119	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	21	-	-	17	-	-
Tuberculosis only	-	-	-	-	1	-
Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

As in previous years there was a continued rise in the volume of refuse collected. Litter again presented a problem during the summer, particularly near beaches, and although a number of paper sack litter containers were provided they were totally inadequate even when emptied thrice weekly.

It became obvious that the enormous pressures caused by the many thousands of holidaymakers would necessitate an additional collection vehicle for the following summer months, and that many more litter holders would be required not only near beaches, but also in villages and hamlets.

RODENT CONTROL

This self-supporting service continued to expand and treatments were regularly carried out on housing sites, sewers and refuse tips. As in previous years, a large proportion of farms in the district renewed their contracts with the Council.

CARAVANS AND TENTS

Once again the most serious public health problem was caused by the annual influx of caravanners and campers, and it became apparent that steps must be taken to exercise greater control over the establishment of tented camping sites. Before the end of the year operators were invited to submit applications for licences.

Altogether a total of twenty-seven caravan sites were operating under licence, catering for a total of 1,550 caravans.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

1. INSPECTIONS

<u>Premises</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Notices</u>	<u>Prose- cutions</u>
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	14	17	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	15	17	-	-

CLEANSING OF BEACHES

The Council considered the nuisance caused by the pollution of beaches by oil and decided to engage the services of a company experienced in this work. As a trial experiment, the beach at West Angle Bay was cleansed and the following report presented to the Council.- "... The first phase of the operation involved raking into heaps and then removing some three lorry loads of oily seaweed. Secondly all heavily oiled large stones were pulled from the upper edge of the beach and left in a position where they would be more subject to the cleansing effect of the tide at highwater. Thirdly, the shingle, pebble and stones, which form in a narrow strip just above the normal spring tide highwater mark, were sprayed with Polyclens just prior to the high tide on the Sunday evening.

Unfortunately the wind dropped completely and the cleansing of the stones was not as complete as had been hoped, due to the tide not reaching the whole area sprayed. Nevertheless, the operation was considered successful and the public are known to be most appreciative of the Council's efforts. Even one month after the work had been carried out, there is little evidence of further pollution, which tends to suggest that there is reasonable hope that the normal pattern of pollution is accumulative, and whilst all oil can never be completely removed, cleaning of the beaches once or twice each year prior to the summer season may be very successful.

In particular it is suggested that if all the seaweed brought in by the early spring tides could be removed from the beaches and the shingle sprayed with chemicals, and then a further cleansing during June, the beaches may remain clean throughout the season. The reason for this is because of the belief that much of the oil pollution is brought in with the seaweed.

In conclusion, further study of the problem is required, particularly in conjunction with the two oil companies within the district, as it is felt that it may be more economical for the Council to carry out beach cleaning by direct labour as a matter of routine, particularly if some form of assistance were forthcoming from the companies."

MILK SUPPLIES

Brucella Abortus

Nineteen samples of milk were taken during the year, none of which were found positive after culture. However, although the vast majority of inhabitants are supplied with pasteurised milk, in view of the probable incidence in herds of Brucella Abortus and the fact that considerable quantities of raw milk are sold to holiday makers in particular, it was realised that systematic sampling would in future be required in order to protect the public.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants within the district.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964

Application forms for registration were sent in respect of all premises to which the above act applies.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Industrial Development

The Regent Oil Refinery at Rhoscrowther was completed and production commenced during the summer. Unfortunately due to a number of circumstances, the plant emitted black smoke on many occasions, resulting in complaints. A number of visits were made to ascertain the steps being taken by the company to abate the nuisance and the Alkali Inspector also frequently paid routine visits to give advice on the matter, but at the end of the year the nuisance persisted.

It was however decided to convene joint meetings of the public health inspectors of the several authorities bordering Milford Haven and the first meeting took place at the offices of the Milford Haven Port Health Authority.

Subsequently the Council decided to provide monitoring and recording apparatus in various parts of the district to obtain information on the existing pollution of the atmosphere from both industrial and domestic sources in collaboration with the D.S.I.R. at the Warren Spring Laboratory at Stevenage.

Central Electricity Generating Board

A meeting was arranged to discuss with the Board the measures to be taken to avoid atmospheric pollution when the Power Station, at Pwllcrochan was in operation.

Street Lighting

Following the adoption of Street Lighting powers for the whole of the district, a comprehensive programme was prepared and a number of villages were provided with street lighting for the first time.

J. E. CRIDDLE.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

